

*SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS*

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 11 with:

Hitherto, in an operation circuit for use in an operation mechanism to drive a power switching device, as shown on page 4 and Figs. 9 to 11 of the Japanese Patent Publication (unexamined) No. 033034/2002, ~~it is arranged such that~~ two discharge switches such as ~~thyristor switch, which~~ thyristors are provided ~~so as to be and~~ are controlled from outside, ~~are~~ made and turned ON in synchronization with an opening command or a closing command, and are ~~made~~ turned OFF at the moment of completion of such opening operation or closing operation.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 20 with:

In the mentioned conventional operation circuit for use in an operation mechanism to drive a power-switching device ~~is~~ of above arrangement, there exist the following problems.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 23 with:

In the conventional operation circuit, an opening coil and a closing coil are connected in parallel to capacitors, and electric energy is discharged by ~~means of~~ discharge switches connected in ~~serial~~ series to these two coils, respectively. In this known arrangement, ~~it is general that~~ the mentioned opening coil and closing coil are disposed adjacent to each other within the operation mechanism. Accordingly, a problem exists in that any induction current, which flows in a direction opposite to a current direction of the coil of the excitation side, is generated through the coil of the non-excitation side due to magnetic coupling when current is carried. Thus a magnetic flux necessary for driving is cancelled, and the generation of a driving force is inhibited.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 12 with:

Figs. 3 (a) and 3 (b) are internal cross sectional views of ~~an internal~~ each part showing an opening state of the operation mechanism of the power switching device according to the invention.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 24 with:

Figs. 8 (a) and 8 (b) are simulation examples of a circuit, each showing technical effects of the operation circuit according to another embodiment of the invention.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 22 with:

Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing an example of an operation mechanism 19 for carrying out an opening and closing operation using the mentioned operation circuit. Fig. 3 (a) is a cross sectional view of an internal part of this perspective view taken along the line ~~B-B~~ IIIa-IIIa of Fig. 3(b). Fig. ~~3~~ 3(b) is a cross sectional view taken along the line ~~A-A~~ IIIb-IIIb of Fig. 3(a).

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 8 with:

Figs. 8(a) and 8 (b) show results, which are obtained on the test of effects by a circuit analysis.